

Remarks

Claims 1-27 are pending. Claims 1-19 are allowed. Claims 20-25 and 27 stand rejected. Claim 26 is objected to.

Please cancel claims 20-25 and 27 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 20-25 and 27 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Freis. Applicants have cancelled claims 20-25 and 27 so this rejection is rendered moot.

Claim 26 was objected to for depending on a rejected claim. Claim 26 has been rewritten in independent form to incorporate the substance of claim 20 (the claim upon which it depended). Therefore, claim 26, as amended, is no longer dependent on a rejected claim, thereby rendering the objection moot.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and respectfully request issuance of a Notice of Allowance directed towards claims 1-19 and 26. If a telephone conference would expedite the processing of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (281) 719-4803.

Should any fee be due in connection with the filing of this document, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to deduct said fee from Huntsman Corporation Deposit Account No. 08-3442.

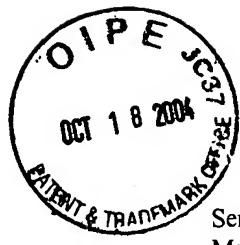
Please date stamp and return the enclosed postcard to acknowledge receipt of this material.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole Peffer Graham
Registration No. 47,852
Attorney for Applicants

Date: 10-5-04



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8 (A))

I hereby certify that the attached papers or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Julia C. Hackstie
(printed name)

Julia C. Hackstie
(signature)